



## *President's Letter*

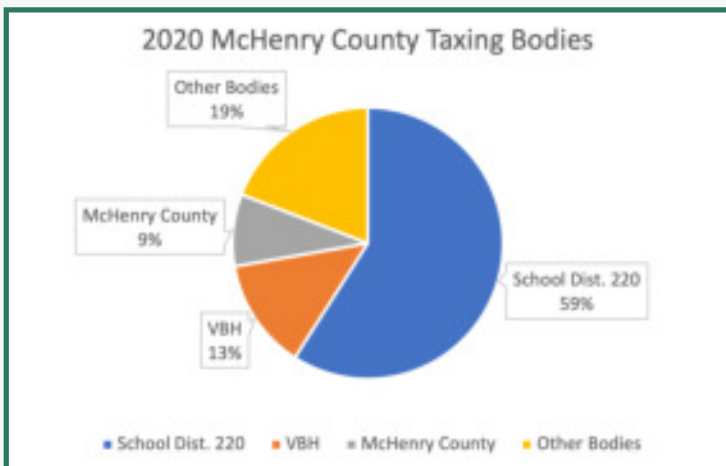
**Happy New Year!** I think we can all agree that 2021 came and went with its ups and downs but here at Village Hall, we persevered and were able to safely and responsibly conduct business as usual.

The Village was able to sponsor The Hills Are Alive Fall Festival which I am happy to report was successfully received. Village Hall grounds were decorated and readied to welcome the more than 500 friends and neighbors who came out to enjoy everything the Fest had to offer. Fest expenses were 100% covered by our sponsors, donors and volunteers. I want to thank Village Staff and our decorated Police Department who were involved at every step in making the Fest possible. I am extremely grateful for everyone who participated--whether they donated funds, activities, their time, or came to spend the afternoon with us. This is a show of being invested in our community, and that's what it's about—our community.



***Birdhouse crafting at The Hills Are Alive Fest***

I want to extend a huge thank you to all our residents who submitted their completed 2020 Census form. Yes, the census was taken in 2020, but the official Decennial Census figures were filed with the Secretary of State's office on September 16, 2021. The Village of Barrington Hills was certified by the Illinois Secretary of State as having 4,114 inhabitants. The Census count is so important because it effects federal funding allocated to our Village, the number of seats in the US House of Representatives, and district boundaries for the next 10 years. Thank you for doing your part.



The Finance Committee and Village Staff worked tirelessly to reduce the tax levy once again, making it the eighth consecutive year the levy was not increased. I am so proud that we could get this done for our residents. Our streamlined processes have proven that at a time when everything around us is increasing, by being diligent, governmental bodies can help the taxpayers.

*continued on page 2...*

## *President's Letter* ...continued from page 1

The Village offered an electronics waste recycling event that was very popular among our residents. We've had requests to host another one. I am happy to share that we scheduled another event for May 14.

Inevitably, with the highs, sometimes there can be lows. I am saddened to report on the passing of beloved Trustee Debra Buettner. Debra was involved in our community long before she was elected as Trustee in 2019. Her bio is below, but I would like to emphasize how much she was admired by all. She took the time to listen to our residents and got involved.

In considering someone to fill her seat, it was my goal to appoint someone similar to Trustee Buettner. It wasn't a decision that I took lightly. My intention was to fill the vacancy according to how the voters voted. I appointed Darby Hills at a special meeting in which she was approved by the Board. I am fully confident that she will fulfill the duties of Trustee honorably and faithfully and that our residents will warmly welcome Trustee Hills.

Again, I am honored to serve as your Village President and am always available.

Sincerely,

*Brian D. Cecola, President*

## IN MEMORIAM

*On Thursday, November 11, 2021, the Village experienced the unexpected passing of Board Member, Debra A. Buettner. Trustee Buettner, together with her husband James Hammond, was a long-time resident of Barrington Hills, who volunteered and dedicated herself unconditionally to her community.*

*Trustee Buettner was a tax and transactional attorney who brought her expertise to her various roles in local government, beginning in 2015, when she was appointed to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals. In 2019, she was elected to the Board of Trustees where she served as the Planning Committee Chairperson and Member of the Finance, Insurance and Building & Zoning Committees. She was unanimously approved by her fellow Board of Trustees to represent the Village at Barrington Area Council of Governments' Executive and Legislative Councils as the Village President's alternate.*

*During the November 2021 Board of Trustees meeting, President Cecola called for a moment of silence after which the Board members expressed how their life was positively impacted by Trustee Buettner.*

*Trustee Buettner's contributions will forever be a part of our Village's history; she will sorely be missed. She is survived by her husband Jim and her older brothers Kenneth, Paul and Glen.*



## VILLAGE BOARD WELCOMES DARBY HILLS

The passing of Trustee Debra A. Buettner created a vacancy in her unexpired term ending in 2023. At a special Board of Trustees meeting, January 7, 2022, President Brian D. Cecola appointed resident Darby Hills to complete the term, which the Board approved with a 5-1 vote. Trustee Hills was sworn into office on January 13, 2022.

"I am humbled and honored to accept this responsibility and excited to represent such an exceptional group of people, our residents, in the governance of the Village of Barrington Hills," expressed Trustee Hills.

Trustee Hills graduated from the University of Iowa and earned her Juris Doctor from Chicago-Kent College of Law. She brings to the Board her experiences as an arbitrator, mediator and as a Cook County State's Attorney concentrating on child welfare. Additionally, Trustee Hills was employed with Jackson Lewis, LLP, as a labor and employment attorney representing corporations.

Darby Hills is no stranger to our community. She has been actively involved in many Barrington Area charitable organizations. In 2010, together with her husband Thomas, she co-founded Barrington Children's Charities, a non-for-profit charitable organization to help support and address the social, emotional, physical and educational needs of children within the School District 220 area.

To date, the charity has distributed \$1.3 million to local children-in-need with over 560,000 provided meals. The charity has expanded to provide eyeglasses, dental care and mental health services based upon need.

Trustee Hills will serve as Chairperson on the Trustees' Planning Committee and as a Member on the Trustees' Finance, Insurance and Building & Zoning Committees.



**CONGRATULATIONS TRUSTEE DARBY HILLS!**



**2021 Tax Levy  
Reduced 3.04%**

**Since 2013, the  
levy has been  
reduced  
by 25.6%**

**The Board of Trustees' goal is to continue the trend of finding areas to save the taxpayers money... and they did!**

Village of Barrington Hills is an appropriations municipality which by ordinance, gives the Board the ability to spend more, if necessary, than budgeted. In keeping diligent to reducing spending where possible, in 2021, the Village decreased expenditures by \$153,021 or a little over 3%.

"A huge thank you to the Finance Committee and Staff for your long hours in getting this done. It is a proud moment as a Board member to be able to do this for our residents," said President Brian D. Cecola. The Finance Committee is made up of Village Trustees Bryan C. Croll (Chairman) and Laura S. Ekstrom (Member).



## HOLD BACK THE SALT



It's that wonderful time of year when we are searching for ways to keep our driveways and walkways free of ice. Salt can be a great resource but also risks increasing chloride contamination in our groundwater. When the snow and ice melt, the chlorides in pavement salts don't break down in water. Instead, chlorides are carried to the aquifers where they stay indefinitely in the groundwater – the same water we drink.

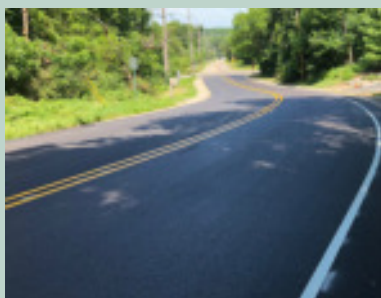
While it may seem that using more salt will make the ice melt faster, the reality is that using too much salt can actually slow melting. A 12-ounce coffee mug full of salt is enough to treat a 20-foot driveway!



***Did you know it only takes 1 teaspoon of salt to permanently pollute 5 gallons of water?***

For additional information or to receive a **Salt Smart Brochure**, contact Barrington Area Council of Governments (BACOG): [bacog@bacog.org](mailto:bacog@bacog.org).

## PAVING THE WAY



In the past several years, the Village has resurfaced around four miles per year to catch up to its targeted goal. The Village is pleased to

announce that it has caught up and this year's road program only requires Old Dundee Road (1.4 miles) to be fully resurfaced. Since our roads are in such good shape, the Village is able to continue to concentrate on a preventative maintenance program to extend the lifespan of those roads. This preventive maintenance should ultimately save tax dollars while allowing us to maintain the high quality of our roads.

This year's program will go to bid in late winter. The Village is hopeful that, as in past years, the awarded service provider will extend village pricing to private road homeowners. **For those who would like to consider taking advantage of this pricing, please email [info@vbhil.gov](mailto:info@vbhil.gov).**

## WHY SO DIFFERENT?



You may have noticed the Village's snow plowing contractor, Mac's, has applied colored salt onto slick roadways. This type of salt is a "pre-wet ice melting product," meaning it is the regular road salt that has been coated in a high-performance liquid deicer. The deicer comes in a variety of colors; this year it's orange. Historically, liquid deicer was often sprayed on salt as it was disbursed from the truck. The pre-wet salt application allows the salt and deicer to work together better and more efficiently.

### Why is coated salt a better option?

- It acts faster than regular salt.
- You can use *less* salt to get the same results all-the-while protecting creeks and groundwater from unnecessary contamination.
- Coated salt is effective to -20 degrees. Regular salt isn't very effective below 20 degrees.
- The color allows the contractor to better see where it has been applied.



# Electronic Recycling Event

Saturday, May 14, 2022  
9 AM – 2 PM

Village Hall  
112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010



## Items Accepted

Laptops  
Desktop PC/tower  
Servers  
Cell phones  
Tablets  
VOIP phones  
Gaming systems  
Household batteries  
Audio/video equipment  
Cable boxes  
LCD monitors  
Circuit boards  
Cabling  
Networking switches/hubs/modems/routers  
Batteries: Car, lawn mower, motorcycle



Printers & TVs: \$10 fee (cash only)  
All other accepted electronic items are FREE to recycle

## Premise Alert Program

If you have a family member or relative with a disability or special needs, the Illinois Premise Alert Program Act may be of help. This Act is to ensure that consistently high levels of public safety services are available to all members of the State of Illinois, including people who may require special consideration in order to access services.

By submitting your completed enrollment form, emergency personnel will be able to recognize that your call for assistance may require special handling.

The enrollment form, available at [vbhpd.net](http://vbhpd.net), can be submitted by-way-of:

- Email: [records@vbhpd.net](mailto:records@vbhpd.net)
- Fax: 847-551-3055
- Mail or Drop Off: 112 Algonquin Road, Barrington Hills, IL 60010

For the purposes of the Premise Alert Program, “disability” and “special needs individual” are defined as:

- “Disability” means an individual’s physical or mental impairment substantially limits one or more of the major life activities; a record of such impairment; or when the individual is regarded as having such an impairment.
- “Special needs individuals” means those individuals who have or are at increased risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by individuals generally.



## What are those cameras I’ve been seeing along the roadway?

### What information is captured?

### Where is the information kept? For how long?

These are just some of the questions the Village has been hearing from its residents, *and we’re glad you’re asking!* Visit [vbhpd.net](http://vbhpd.net) [FAQs](#) for the answers to these questions and more.

The Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) cameras serve to virtually gate our community, and to be an investigative tool should the need arise. There are 13 cameras installed with future locations being considered.

Since their inception, they have proven to be an invaluable tool in various investigations. Most recently, the data was used to identify the offender in a hit and run. This technology is commonplace throughout surrounding municipalities with successful results.

The system captures a timestamped, still photo of the vehicle and records the registration plate. After the minimum duration required by Illinois law, the captured data is automatically purged from the system.

**If homeowners/associations are interested in installing an ALPR camera on their private road and connecting it to the Village’s network as an added layer of security, please email [clerk@vbhil.gov](mailto:clerk@vbhil.gov).**





# NO, THANK YOU!



## Avoid Unsolicited Visitors

**Purchase the PD's  
No Trespassing  
sign for only \$10.**



***Methods of payment:***

**Check**

**Credit Card**

**Exact Cash**

***[vbhil.gov/notrespassing](http://vbhil.gov/notrespassing)***

# EVENTS TO WATCH FOR

- ◆ Daylight Saving - 13<sup>th</sup>
- ◆ Seasonal Posted Roads

## April

- ◆ Arbor Day Seedling Giveaway
- ◆ Road Program Rates
- ◆ Bee Awareness Seed Giveaway
- ◆ Roadside Clean Up Day

## May

- ◆ BACOG's Level I Testing
- ◆ ERecycling - 14<sup>th</sup>

## July

- ◆ Independence Day Fun Run  
through Barrington Hills - 2<sup>nd</sup>

**dependent on  
community interest**

- ◆ ALPR Camera Safety Seminar

Event/time frame subject to change without notice.

Frequently visit [vbhil.gov](http://vbhil.gov) or  
our social media pages for updates.



Village of Barrington Hills  
112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199

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**For the most up-to-date info:**



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**Village of  
Barrington Hills**  
112 Algonquin Road  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010-5199  
village@vbhil.gov

vbhil.gov

**Phone**  
847-551-3000

**Village Hall Hours**  
Monday-Friday  
9:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

**Board of Trustees**

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Darby Hills  
*Trustee*

**How many squares total?**

Solution under News at [vbhil.gov](http://vbhil.gov).

